REMARKS

Reconsideration of the rejection of Claim 1-21 under 35 U.S.C., second paragraph, is hereby requested. Claim 1 has been amended to clarify confusion between the recitation of "a brake beam" and "two brake beams". Therefore reconsideration of this rejection is respectfully requested.

As stated in the Office Action, Claims 6-15 and 17 would be allowable if rewritten to overcome the rejection under 35 U.S.C. §112, second paragraph set forth in the Office Action and to include all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims. As noted above, the language of Claim 1 has been amended to overcome the §112, second paragraph rejection. Claims 6, 9 and 17 have been rewritten in independent form including the base claim (Claim 1) and any intervening claims.

Claims 12-15 and 18-21 have been amended to correct their dependencies. Claims 10, 20 and 21 have been amended for clarification purposes regarding an antecedent basis for an existing claim limitation.

Please add Claims 22-29, which depend from allowed independent claims 6, 9 and 17.

Please cancel Claims 1-4 and 16, without prejudice or disclaimer of the subject mattertherein.

In view of the above, independent Claims 6, 9 and 17 are in condition for allowance and such is respectfully requested.

Dependent Claim 5, 7-8, 10-15 and 18-29 depend from allowed independent Claims 6, 9 and 17 and are allowable for at least the same reasons as independent Claims 6, 9 and 17, as well as for their own limitations.

In view of the above, Claims 5-15 and 17-29 are in condition for allowance and such is respectfully requested.

In view of all of the above, the Application is now in condition for allowance and such is hereby requested.

It is respectfully requested that, if necessary to effect a timely response, this paper be considered as a Petition for an Extension of Time sufficient to effect a timely response and shortages in other fees be charged, or any overpayment in fees be credited, to the Account of Barnes & Thornburg, Deposit Account No. 02-1010 (566/41909).

Respectfully submitted,

Richard P. Krinsky /Reg. No. 47,720

(202) 289-1313

BARNES & THORNBURG LLP

Suite 900

750 17th Street, N.W.

Washington, DC 20006-4607

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Enclosure: Claim

Claim Summary Document